

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief Ronal W. Serpas



Captain Glenn Cramer
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wa.gov/wsp/wsphome.htm>

March 26, 2003

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sergeant Jerry Schlessner
(360) 753-1118

Washington State Patrol Fuel Tax Evasion Unit

Chief Ronal Serpas announced that CVEO 1 Ron Alred (Yakima) and CVEO 1 Robert Flores (Kennewick) received Certificates of Appreciation for their outstanding efforts in Fuel Tax Evasion for the year 2002. Alred and Flores were instrumental in apprehending several tax evaders with their relentless pursuit of those who use illegal off-road fuel (red dyed fuel) in on-road licensed vehicles. The illegal use of untaxed diesel cost the state of Washington 23 cents per gallon.

Both Alred and Flores, along with their detachments, have conducted several fuel dips throughout District 3 (Yakima area). Alred led the state with 27 dyed diesel violations, followed by Flores with 16 violations. These violators alone were assessed \$43,000 dollars by the Department of Licensing (DOL). During the same time period, DOL assessed businesses and individuals \$1,028,329. The assessment from DOL includes the fines as well as penalties, interest, and taxes. Both officers and detachments are commended for their support and dedication in the apprehension of dyed diesel violators.

###